

# The Baptism of Christ

## INTRODUCTION

INTROIT HYMN— **711** *Celebration Hymnal*

In the name of the Father, and of ✠ the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

*All respond: Amen.*

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE are introduced.*

You raise the dead to life in the Spirit.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

You bring pardon and peace to the broken in  
heart.

Christ, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy.**

You make one by your Spirit the torn and  
divided.

Lord, have mercy.

**Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive  
us ✠ our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**Amen.**

*GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is sung.*

**Glorify God in the highest, and peace to  
his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God  
and Father, we worship you, we give you  
thanks, we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the  
sin of the world: have mercy on us; you  
are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One, you  
alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most  
High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in  
the glory ✠ of God the Father. Amen.**

*All remain standing for the COLLECT.*

Eternal Father, who at the baptism of Jesus  
revealed him to be your Son, anointing him  
with the Holy Spirit: grant to us, who are born  
again by water and the Spirit, that we may be  
faithful to our calling as your adopted chil-  
dren; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity  
of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.  
**Amen.**

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings for Year C

FIRST READING

*Isa 43:1-7*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Now thus says the Lord, he who created you,  
O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear  
not, for I have redeemed you; I have called  
you by name, you are mine. When you pass  
through the waters, I will be with you; and  
through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm  
you; when you walk through fire you shall not  
be burned, and the flame shall not consume  
you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy  
One of Israel, your Saviour. I give Egypt as  
your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for  
you. Because you are precious in my eyes, and  
honoured, and I love you, I give men in return  
for you, peoples in exchange for your life.  
Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your  
offspring from the east, and from the west I  
will gather you. I will say to the north, Give  
up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring  
my sons from afar and my daughters from the  
end of the earth, everyone who is called by my  
name, whom I created for my glory, whom I  
formed and made."

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

R. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

(All repeat)

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord the honour due unto his  
name;  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. R.

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders.  
The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation;  
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice. R.

The Lord sits enthroned above the waterflood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.  
The Lord shall give strength to his people;  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of  
peace. R.

## SECOND READING

Acts 8.14–17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GRADUAL HYMN—67

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Mt 3.17

*Alleluia.*

This is my Son, the Beloved:  
with whom I am well pleased. *Alleluia.*

## GOSPEL READING

Lk 3.15–17, 21–22

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Luke.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

A SERMON *may follow.*

## THANKSGIVING FOR HOLY BAPTISM

*The priest and ministers proceed to the font. Water is poured into the font with these words. God in Christ gives us water welling up for eternal life. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.*

**Lord, give us this water, and we shall thirst no more.**

Praise God who made heaven and earth,  
**Who keeps his promise for ever.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The priest blesses the water in the font, ending:*  
... now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The people renew their BAPTISMAL VOWS.*

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness into his marvellous light. To follow Christ means dying to sin and rising to new life with him.

Therefore I ask:

Do you reject the devil and all rebellion against God?

**I reject them.**

Do you renounce the deceit and corruption of evil?

**I renounce them.**

Do you repent of the sins that separate us from God and neighbour?

**I repent of them.**

Do you turn to Christ as Saviour?

**I turn to Christ.**

Do you submit to Christ as Lord?

**I submit to Christ.**

Do you come to Christ, the way, the truth and the life?

**I come to Christ.**

*The ancient Baptismal creed of the Church, the APOSTLES' CREED, is recited.*

Brothers and sisters, I invite you to join in the Church's baptismal profession of faith.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Almighty God, we thank you for our fellowship in the household of faith with all who have been baptised into your name. Keep us faithful to our baptism, and so make us ready for that day when the whole creation shall be made perfect in your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

*The people are sprinkled with baptismal water. Meanwhile this RESPONSORY may be sung.*



*Cantor: Water of Life, cleanse and refresh us; raise us to life in Christ Jesus. (All repeat)*

All you who thirst, come to the waters, and you will never be thirsty again. *R.*

As rain from heaven, so is God's word: it waters the earth and brings forth life. *R.*

Dying with Christ, so we shall rise with him; death shall no longer have power over us. *R.*

Turn to the Lord, cast off your wickedness; you will find peace in his infinite love. *R.*

## LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

*The priest introduces the PEACE.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

### OFFERTORY HYMN— 125

*The people unite their prayers with the priest, who says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.*

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.**

Lord, on this day when Jesus was revealed as your beloved Son, accept the offering of your faithful people, that it may become the sacrifice of him who has washed away the sins of the world and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*The PREFACE follows.*

*All respond with the* SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he ✠ who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

*All kneel. After the Consecration, all acclaim:*

Christ is the bread of life:

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim your death, Lord Jesus, until you come in glory (× 2).**

*The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:*

... for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## RITE OF COMMUNION

*The priest introduces the* LORD'S PRAYER.

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is sung.*

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us. (× 2)**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: grant us peace.**

*The priest gives the* COMMUNION INVITATION.

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

## COMMUNION HYMNS— 98

*The priest says the* POST-COMMUNION prayer.

Lord of all time and eternity, you opened the heavens and revealed yourself as Father in the baptism of Jesus your beloved Son: by the power of your Spirit, complete the heavenly work of our rebirth through the waters of the new creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## CONCLUSION

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**  
Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

May the Father, whose voice bore witness to his beloved Son at the River Jordan, bestow upon you the Spirit of adoption as his children. **Amen.**

May Christ, who submitted to baptism at the hands of John, fulfil in you all righteousness and cleanse you from sin. **Amen.**

May the Holy Spirit, who came upon the Son at his baptism, pour out his gifts on you who have come to the waters of new birth. **Amen.**  
And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

## RECESSIONAL HYMN— 560

*The service may be followed by the* ANGELUS.

∨. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:

℟. **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now, and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

∨. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:

℟. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**

Hail Mary ...

∨. And the Word was made flesh:

℟. **And dwelt among us.**

Hail Mary ...

∨. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:

℟. **That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O Lord, your grace into our hearts; that we to whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son, was made known by the message of an angel, may by his Passion and Cross ✠ be brought to the glory of his Resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**